

FOIAb3b

U. S. Rules Wylie Is Competent to Stand Trial

John A. Wylie, one of three former Defense Department officials charged with embezzlement, has been declared mentally competent to stand trial, Plato Cacheris, first assistant U.S. attorney in Alexandria, said today.

Wylie, 58, former head of the department's budget and finance branch, was sent to St. Elizabeths Hospital last month for a mental examination at the request of his attorney. The one-time \$17,500-a-year government worker is accused of taking about \$40,000.

A pre-trial hearing will be held in Alexandria Federal District Court tomorrow for Wylie; William H. Godel, 43, former deputy director for management in the Defense Department's Advanced Research Projects Agency, and James Robert Loftis Jr., 52, former administrative assistant to Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara.

Godel is expected to report to the court tomorrow on his trip to South Viet Nam, where he hoped to gather testimony in his defense from Asian officials.

The three men are scheduled to be tried March 29.

CPYRGHT